

Department of Public Works

(Website – www.battlecreekmi.gov/)

Employees: 174 (full & part-time) Divisions: Engineering, Field Services, Fleet, Records, Utilities (Water & Sewer)

Maintain **792** miles of water and sewer mains, **188** miles of storm drain, **4,000** fire hydrants, and approximately **300** miles of roads within the City limits as well as **67** lane miles of State highway within Battle Creek while utilizing over **400** pieces of heavy-duty equipment and vehicles.

Overall Responsibilities:

- Collection and treatment of wastewater
- Production and treatment of drinking water
- Coordination and monitoring of environmental investigations and remediation on municipally-owned property
- Design, construction, and maintenance of all street, water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer systems within the city
- Park design and maintenance
- Maintenance and management of the City's vehicle and heavy-equipment fleet

Engineering (including Traffic) Responsibilities: (269-966-3343)

- Design and construction of all street, bridge, water and sewer improvement projects in the city.
- Selecting annual road treatments of approximately 300 miles of road.
 - Process involves a review of our street system and then prioritizing roads based upon actual conditions.
- Design and ensure proper installation of all traffic control systems, (i.e., traffic signals, signs, and pavement markings), and for conducting all traffic safety and operations studies for City streets.

Records Responsibilities: (269-966-3343)

- Maintain all public infrastructure records for the City.
- Process applications to connect to the public water and sewer systems and permits to work in the street right-of-way.
- Maintain the public works infrastructure layers for the Geographical Information System (GIS).
 - Involves mapping and verifying the locations of the infrastructure to ensure the most accurate information is available for the various city departments, i.e., water and sewer crews needing to make repairs to main breaks.

Environmental Responsibilities: (269-966-3343)

- Oversee environmental issues to include brownfield redevelopment, plan implementation, projects related to water, sewer, solid waste, recycling and residential trash pickup, storm water permit compliance, and wellhead/drinking water protection.
 - Manage the garbage collection and recycling contract.
- Raise public awareness of vital environmental issues with events such as the Children's Water Festival, Kanoe the Kazoo, and Krazy for the Kazoo (river cleanup).

Field Services: (269-966-3507)

- 24-7 operation responsible for all above-ground maintenance for City roads to include storm cleanup, snow plowing, road, tree, guardrail and street maintenance which includes crack-filling / bituminous patching.
- Pick up dead non-domesticated (wild) animals in the road,
- Maintenance of the Downtown area, cemeteries, and storm ponds

- Subcontractor to MDOT for the same basic routine maintenance as Battle Creek roads for 67 lane miles of State Highway within Battle Creek.
- Maintain 26 neighborhood parks, 26 miles of linear path, 25 storm ponds, and maintain Willard Beach, as well as three cemeteries.

Utilities - Water Responsibilities: (269-966-3506)

- Manage the operation and maintenance of the city's water production and treatment facility at the Verona Well Field as well as the city's water storage and pumping facilities and 368 miles of water main located throughout the Battle Creek area.
- Ensure the community's drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state drinking water standards.
- Flush the City's fire hydrants every year, typically between Memorial Day and the Fourth of July.
 - Done during overnight hours to minimize the inconvenience and allow the water to stabilize before daily use.
 - Regular flushing allows for the highest water quality as well as allows staff to verify the water system is operating properly.
 - Ensures the hydrants are ready when the Fire Department needs them.
- Install new water services and perform repairs as needed, i.e., main breaks, service leaks, etc.

Utilities – Wastewater Responsibilities: (269-966-3513)

- Manage the operation and maintenance of the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant, as well as the 124 sanitary sewer lift stations and 414 miles of sanitary sewer mains located throughout the city.
- Ensure the community's wastewater is cleaned and treated to meet all federal and state standards before it is discharged into the Kalamazoo River.
- Install new sewer services and perform repairs as needed, i.e., clogged sewer lines, sewer line breaks, etc.
- Maintain storm sewer and drainage pond system.

Fleet Responsibilities: (269-966-3487)

- Purchase and maintain the City's fleet of over 400 pieces of equipment ranging from as large as a fire truck to as small as a chainsaw.
- Perform welding and fabrication and repair on various vehicles and other types of equipment.
- Provide 24-hour service to police, fire, and snow removal equipment as needed.
- Maintain fueling station for gasoline, diesel, and propane fuels – approximately 400,000 gallons yearly combined consumption.

Street Lighting:

- City pays for the fixtures – under contract with Consumers Energy to maintain the lights at a budget of \$1.2 million for FY'17.
- Perform twice-yearly light studies to ensure the 6,220 street lights are operating correctly

Parking:

- Manage the City's parking lot contract with ABM Parking Services with a budget of \$1.6 million a year.
 - Parking consists of three parking structures, twelve surface lots, and on-street parking for a combined 3,000 spaces.